



NATIONAL  
FFA ORGANIZATION

# Affiliation Membership Description, Philosophy, Benefits, Policy and Procedures

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For assistance or questions on membership issues, contact the National FFA Organization membership team at 1-888-332-2668 option 3 or [membership@ffa.org](mailto:membership@ffa.org).

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## AFFILIATION MEMBERSHIP DESCRIPTION AND PHILOSOPHY

### *What is Program Affiliation?*

Program affiliation allows students enrolled in a secondary agricultural education program (grades 7-12, as defined by the National FFA Constitution) or graduates who have met the local, state, and national requirements to be eligible for the benefits and opportunities of FFA, as part of the total program delivery. Under program affiliation, all students are FFA members. Instead of paying membership dues for each member, chapters pay an affiliation fee for all students enrolled in their agricultural education program.

### *Philosophy of Program Affiliation*

- 1) Involvement in FFA is an integral part of an agricultural education program serving 7th-12th grade members and, therefore, should not be optional.
- 2) Participating in FFA activities helps students develop additional employability skills that cannot be duplicated at the classroom level.
- 3) Students understand the role and importance of professional associations in America's workforce.
- 4) Students engaged in a complete school-based agricultural education program will experience a well-rounded education that leads to increased academic performance, lower dropout rates, and career success.
- 5) Twenty-first-century skill development through FFA is not only for a select few but should be offered to every student in every class, every day.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PROGRAM AFFILIATION?

Click [here](#) to access Frequently Asked Questions on program affiliation:

- 1) **Multiple Fee Collection Options.** One fee covers all students in the agricultural education program. How fees are collected are up to the local chapter. Consider utilizing local FFA Alumni or booster clubs, sponsors, incorporating in annual budget and fundraising. Or, talk to school administration about including it in the annual operational budget.
- 2) **FFA is integral.** Repositions FFA as an integral part of agricultural education in the classroom and helps remove the "club" connotation. Every student is a member, providing the teacher the option to engage all students in the school-based agricultural education, three-component model.
- 3) **Easy to budget.** It allows the ability to budget the affiliation fee in advance for local programs and states.
- 4) **Missing students.** If a student is accidentally left off the roster, the student can be added at any time without the chapter having to pay additional fees, as long as adding that student does not push the total membership number to the next scale of fee structure. This is beneficial to students applying for scholarships, awards, and the American FFA Degree.

- 5) **Meets national standards.** Automatically makes the program exemplary in Standard 3: Leadership Development, Quality Indicator #1 of the National Quality Program Standards (NQPS) for Agricultural Education approved by the National Council of Agricultural Education. For a copy of NQPS, click [here](#).
- 6) **Potential State-Specific Benefits:**
- a) Ability to collect fees sooner due to earlier billing process.
  - b) More accurate accounting of all students enrolled in agricultural education at local and state levels.
  - c) Provide access to FFA activities, awards, and programming to all enrolled agricultural education students regardless of socioeconomic situations.
  - d) Increased membership numbers resulting in the following:
    - i) Increased potential with sponsors as we serve more students.
    - ii) Increased numbers of students who are available to participate in FFA activities, awards, and recognition programs.

**FFA PROGRAM AFFILIATION FEE OPERATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Annually by July 31, states must select one of three fees/dues options for the following membership year.** The options are 100 percent state affiliation paying affiliation fees, 100 percent traditional dues-paying, or a combination of both. If a state is 100% affiliated, the state can choose to either charge state affiliation fees or charge no fees to chapters. If a state offers a combination of both, the state will need to determine if it will charge state affiliation fees for affiliated chapters, charge state dues for a traditional dues-paying chapters, or charge no fees or dues.

The affiliation fee schedule and the dues per member schedule need to be completed on the state profile in the **Association Program Data** section on the **Dues/Fees** tab. (see example below)

The screenshot shows the Alabama FFA State Association website interface. The 'Association Program Data' section is highlighted with a red box, and the 'Dues/Fees' sub-tab is also highlighted. The 'Options' section includes:

- State Affiliation Options:** A dropdown menu set to 'State allows chapters to be affiliated' with an 'Update' button. A note below explains that for 100% affiliated states, changes must be made via email to membership@ffa.org by July 31.
- Middle School Flat Fee Program Options:** A dropdown menu set to 'State does not allow middle school flat fee' with an 'Update' button. A note below explains that for states allowing this program, changes must be made via email to membership@ffa.org by July 31.
- Membership Dues:**
  - Effective Membership Year:** 2020-2021
  - Allow Multi-Year Membership:** No
  - Allow Membership Batch Detail Printing:** Yes
  - National Membership Dues Table:**

Membership Type	Amount
One Year	\$7.00
Three Year	\$20.50
Four Year	\$27.90
  - State Membership Dues Table:**

Membership Type	Amount
One Year	\$ 5.00
Three Year	\$ 0.00
Four Year	\$ 0.00

- State is 100% affiliated (if selected, show the National Affiliation Fees Schedule)
- State allows chapters to be affiliated (if selected, show both the Membership Dues and the Affiliation Fees Schedule)
- State does not allow chapters to be affiliated (if selected, show Membership Dues only)

## Affiliation Fee Schedule

### Effective Membership Year

2020-2021

### National Affiliation Fee Schedule

Minimum Quantity	Maximum Quantity	Fee Amount
1	25	\$150.00
26	35	\$210.00
36	50	\$285.00
51	75	\$405.00
76	100	\$540.00
101	125	\$675.00
126	150	\$805.00
151	175	\$935.00
176	200	\$1,065.00
201	225	\$1,200.00
226	250	\$1,325.00
251	275	\$1,450.00
276	300	\$1,575.00
301	325	\$1,700.00
326	350	\$1,830.00
351	375	\$1,950.00
376	400	\$2,080.00
401	425	\$2,200.00
426	450	\$2,330.00
451	475	\$2,450.00
476	500	\$2,580.00
501	525	\$2,710.00
526	550	\$2,830.00
551	575	\$2,960.00
576	600	\$3,090.00
601	625	\$3,210.00
626	650	\$3,340.00
651	675	\$3,460.00
676	700	\$3,590.00
701	725	\$3,720.00
726	750	\$3,840.00
751	775	\$3,960.00
776	800	\$4,090.00
801	825	\$4,210.00
826	850	\$4,330.00
851	875	\$4,450.00
876	900	\$4,580.00
901	925	\$4,700.00
926	950	\$4,820.00
951	975	\$4,940.00
976	1000	\$5,050.00

### State Affiliation Fee Schedule

Minimum Quantity	Maximum Quantity	Fee Amount
1	25	\$225.00
26	35	\$275.00
36	50	\$350.00
51	75	\$475.00
76	100	\$600.00
101	125	\$725.00
126	150	\$850.00
151	175	\$975.00
176	200	\$1,100.00
201	225	\$1,225.00
226	250	\$1,350.00
251	275	\$1,475.00
276	300	\$1,600.00
301	325	\$1,725.00
326	350	\$1,850.00
351	375	\$1,975.00
376	400	\$2,100.00
401	425	\$2,225.00
426	450	\$2,350.00
451	475	\$2,475.00
476	500	\$2,600.00
501	525	\$2,725.00
526	550	\$2,850.00
551	575	\$2,975.00
576	600	\$3,100.00
601	625	\$3,225.00
626	650	\$3,350.00
651	675	\$3,475.00
676	700	\$3,600.00
701	725	\$3,725.00
726	750	\$3,850.00
751	775	\$3,975.00
776	800	\$4,100.00
801	825	\$4,225.00
826	850	\$4,350.00
851	875	\$4,475.00
876	900	\$4,600.00
901	925	\$4,725.00
926	950	\$4,850.00
951	975	\$4,975.00
976		\$5,100.00

Note: The national fee amount for quantities above 1,000 will be calculated at the rate used in the 976-1000 affiliation tier

- 1) **States must approve all chapter requests to be affiliated by November 15 annually.** This deadline is to ensure correct invoicing is completed and resolve other possible issues.
- 2) **Program affiliation fees are determined using the prior membership year's numbers.** Prior to invoicing, if you added memberships to the previous year's roster, those memberships will be included in the total for *that* year. Membership for the prior year is calculated on the day invoicing occurs. If at any time you need to see membership totals, go to the Association Student/Member Data section of your state profile. Displayed on this screen is the membership number as of the prior evening's national invoicing. The same information is available to chapters on their profile.

**Affiliation fees are based on the agricultural education enrollment** of the **local school** where the local FFA chapter is established.

**Affiliated chapters will submit roster(s)** with the required information. This information will be gathered in accordance with current state FFA membership processes.

**The affiliation roster will include** all national and state-required data. National-required data includes the unduplicated legal name of the student, mailing address, graduation year, and graduation month for seniors. States may require gender, ethnicity/race, and email of the following:

- a) All **secondary school students** (grades 7-12 as defined by the National FFA Constitution) enrolled in all agricultural education classes offered by the school and other eligible students for active FFA membership. See National Constitution Article V, Section B, to determine other eligible students.
  - b) All **graduated students** wishing to continue active FFA membership according to chapter, state, and national membership policies.
  - c) All **students enrolled in an agricultural education exploratory class** (less than nine weeks) who have met chapter, state, and national membership policies. *However, the local chapter advisor has the choice to include or exclude any student based on their level of potential future engagement.*
- 3) **Determination of the affiliation program fee for states with less than 100 percent affiliated chapters:**
- a) **First year of participation:** For the first year, the program affiliation fee paid by the chapter is determined by the total agricultural education enrollment on April 1 of the membership year, and invoicing for the first year will be completed by April 16.  
Example:
    - April 1 total agricultural education enrollment from roster(s) received equals 100; an invoice will be created by April 16 based on 100.
    - Additional ten members received between April 2 and July 31.
    - Invoice for the following year will be based on 110 student members.
  - b) **Continuing participation:** Subsequent year's program affiliation fee will be based on the prior membership year.
- 4) **Determination of affiliation program fee for states with 100 percent affiliated chapters:**
- a) The state affiliation fee is based on total state agricultural education enrollment. Total agricultural education enrollment is determined by listing the following students in the FFA roster system:
    - i) All **secondary school students** (grades 7-12 as defined by National FFA Constitution) enrolled in all agricultural education classes and other eligible students for active FFA membership.
    - ii) All **graduated students** wishing to continue active FFA membership according to chapter, state, and national membership policies.
    - iii) All **students enrolled in an agricultural education exploratory class** (less than nine weeks) who have met chapter, state, and national membership policies. *However, the local chapter advisor has the choice to include or exclude any student based on their level of potential future engagement.*
  - b) **Continuing participation:** Subsequent year's program affiliation fee pricing will be based on the prior membership year. Refer to (3) above for how the membership number is determined.
- 5) The state FFA association and the National FFA Organization will not request payment of membership dues from any student who moves from an affiliated program to a non-affiliated chapter. Once a roster is received and membership is established, a student will remain a member for the entire membership year.
- 6) **Participation in the affiliation fee program is designed to be ongoing.**
- a) **States** that sign up for the affiliation program must remain as an affiliated state association unless they receive approval from the National FFA Organization to revert to a not 100 percent affiliated state. All FFA chapters in a 100 percent membership state are considered 100 percent affiliated chapters and are not allowed to individually opt-out of affiliation.
  - b) **Chapters in a state that is not 100 percent affiliated** and that sign up for affiliation must remain affiliated chapters unless they receive approval from the state association to revert to a non-affiliated chapter dues process.

### Questions/Concerns

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the National FFA Membership Team at 888-332-2668 option 3 or [membership@ffa.org](mailto:membership@ffa.org).